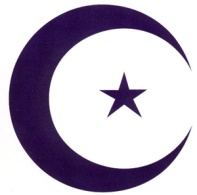
**Summary**

From 500-1450, major world religions- Buddhism, Christianity, Islam- spread across political and cultural and development of trade systems, which were new and regular. (Faith and trade are “contradictory”).

**Religion**: When the great classical empires declined, these areas experienced economical decline and increase in disorder. All three of these religions actively had missionary efforts. Periodically, all benefited from government sponsorship and military pressure. From the post-classical period, the establishment of the dominant religious framework in Asia, Europe, and parts of Africa still exist today. These people turned toward religious faith for security, reassurance, and guidance. The spread of these religions created larger groups of people with broadly share beliefs and religious intuitions, generating new opportunities for mutual intolerance. Islam developed a particular dynamism, affecting more cultures and the spread of missionary religions. The increasing number of devoted religious people would often combine new religion with older values, artistic forms and other interests. **Trade**: International trade expanded into the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean Sea from the old Silk Road, creating a coherent world network. The collapse of established boundaries was caused by the decline of the classical empires. Boundaries were reoriented and encouraged missionary activity and trade. The development of better ships and new navigational devices was encouraged by expanding trade. It also facilitated the spread of technology and disease. Even after the collapses of classical empires, their successes encouraged many people to maintain and revive classical forms. The blending of traditional forms with missionary religions was from continuities. There were no systematic changes in social and political structure. Major areas, America were not part of the system shaped by world religion and interregional trade. Religion helped women and also distracted them from other issues. Women found spiritual solaces. These new customs limited a greater degree of opportunities for women, surviving to present day.

**Buddhism**

**Islam**

**Christianity**